

BOOK REVIEW

Veterinary Clinical Pathology. E. H. Coles. Published by W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London. Available in Canada through McAinsh and Company Limited, Toronto, Ontario. 1967. 455 pages. Price \$16.20.

Clinicians are making greater use of laboratory aids to arrive at a diagnosis, make a prognosis, or understand better the basic effects of disease on their patients. A shortage of adequate practical textbooks in clinical pathology has been a drawback for veterinary clinicians and it is only recently that experienced workers are beginning to produce such books.

Veterinary Clinical Pathology will help to fill the void. It contains 15 chapters plus an appendix. Four of these chapters are devoted to hematology, including one on bone marrow and one on coagulation. The technical details in these chapters are well covered, however, as might be expected in a book not devoted primarily to the subject, the interpretation and assessment of results are given in insufficient depth.

Chapters on cerebrospinal fluid and on exudates and other fluids while brief will alert those who are contemplating these studies as to what might be involved.

One chapter is devoted to blood chemistry and one each to liver function, kidney function, and pancreatic and other organ tests. Many of the techniques selected were based on the experience of the author gained in practice and in a large hospital. In a chapter on toxicology, details of some "office" tests are given but the impression is gained that these are best left to laboratories experienced in this work.

There are two chapters outlining procedures in microbiology and mastitis diagnosis. The chapter on parasitology contains extremely helpful pictures of parasites and their eggs.

Where so many subjects are covered, it is not surprising that some of them are treated superficially but this will likely always occur in usable and practical books of this nature, and this text should be in the office of all veterinarians. *B. J. McSherry.*

ABSTRACTS

Kaire, G. H. (1966). Isolation of tick paralysis toxin from *Ixodes holocyclus*.—*Toxicon* 4, 91–97 (360 Williamstown Rd., Yarraville, W. 13, Victoria, Australia).

In parts of Australia tick paralysis caused by *I. holocyclus* is frequently seen in domestic animals but rarely in man. The preparation of an extract from replete *I. holocyclus* is described, and it is shown that this extract contains the toxin causing tick paralysis. Dogs immunized with the extract resisted challenge with five ticks; usually 1–2 ticks produce severe paralysis or even death. The extract has been used for assay of canine anti-tick serum (V.B. 36, abst. 1847).

Reprinted from "*The Veterinary Bulletin*", Vol. 37, No. 9, September, 1967.

Thomas, R. J., and Bainbridge, M. H. (1967). The influence of the anthelmintic tetramisole on the productivity of fattening lambs.—*Vet. Rec.* 80, 266–269 (Fac. Agric. Univ. Newcastle).

The effect of treatment with tetramisole is described in lambs with a naturally acquired subclinical worm burden. The animals were housed to prevent reinfection, and the effect was assessed by reduction of egg count, changes in weight, and feed consumption. The drug was highly effective against the gastrointestinal worm burden, and treatment resulted in increased weight gain, improved appetite and increased efficiency of food utilization.

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